Ochopee, FL 34141



33100 Tamiami Trail East

Big Cypress National Preserve Florida

05/07/2011 Jarhead Fire Update

Southwest Area Incident Management Team Incident Commander: Dugger Hughes

Public Information Officer: Jim Payne, 602-803-4270 (cell)

Public Affairs Officer/Landowner Contact: Bob DeGross, 239-695-1107, 239-293-3643 (cell)

Jarhead Fire Information: 239-695-0031

Fire Facts:

Location: Center of Big Cypress National Preserve

Size: approximately 26,130 acres (as of 1700 5/6/11)

Percent Contained: 20%

Cause: lightning

Number of Personnel: 340 Crews: 3 Type 1, 2 Type 2

Date started: 04/26/2011

Estimated Containment Date: 5/18/2011

Injuries to Date: one (minor)

Aircraft: three Type 1 and two Type 3 helicopters Equipment: four fire swamp buggies, 27 engines

General Information/Announcements:

The National Park Service has established incident priorities that include firefighter and public safety, protecting private property, threatened and endangered species and their habitat, and natural and cultural resources. NPS resource advisors continue to work with crews to assess resource impacts and appropriate firefighting tactics.

Some smoke may be present on U. S. 41 south of the fire this morning. Smoke should dissipate by 10 AM.

Today's Activity:

Crews will hold and improve containment lines on the southwest and northeast flanks of the fire, while indirect containment line is established using the trail network on the northwest flank. Preparation for burnouts will continue on the southwest and southeast flanks. Significant rainfall fell on the southern edge of the fire yesterday. If fuels dry adequately today, a burnout operation may be conducted along the indirect line north of, and parallel to U. S. 41. Structure protection activities will continue around hunting camps and residences. Additional structures will be assessed for possible structure protection. West of the fire front, fire crews will continue working with Preserve resource specialists to protect red cockaded woodpecker cavity trees.

Closures/Advisories:

The Preserve is closed west of Oasis Visitor Center to Turner River Road, south of I-75 and north of U.S. 41. This closure includes the Florida National Scenic Trail within the area and the Oasis ORV access.

Public Safety Message:

Please be aware of and observe area closures in effect due to aerial and firefighting operations. Drivers on U.S. 41 and I-75 should exercise extreme caution due to smoke and fire vehicle traffic.

Fire information is being posted in Everglades City, and at sites along U. S. 41 and I-75.

Partners/Cooperators

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, Everglades National Park, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seminole Tribe of Florida, Ochopee Fire District, Everglades City Fire District, Florida Division of Forestry, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection, Collier County Sheriff's Department, Collier County Emergency Operations Center, Collier County Health Department.

The Southwest Area Incident Management Team took responsibility for fire suppression on 5/1/2011. The team is managing the fire under the direction of Big Cypress National Preserve, a unit of the National Park Service.

For More Information

http://www.nps.gov/naturescience/2011-jarhead-fire.htm http://www.nps.gov/fire/, http://www.inciweb.org